

Remarks

Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for reconsideration and reexamination of the above-identified patent application. This Amendment places the instant patent application in condition for allowance. Applicant submits that this Amendment does not contain new matter or require an additional prior art search by the Examiner. In the Advisory Action mailed November 21, 2006, claims 16-20 were allowed and claims 1-7, 12, 13 and 15 were rejected.

Of the pending claims, allowed claim 16 is the only independent claim. Upon entry of this amendment claims 3-7 and 16-20 are pending in this application. In summary, all the remaining dependent claims (i.e., claims 17-20 and 3-7) are now dependent upon allowable independent claim 16. In this Amendment, only claim 3 has been amended so as to make it dependent upon previously allowed dependent claim 17. Claims 1, 2 and 12-15 have been cancelled in this Amendment. Claims 8-11 remain withdrawn from consideration. No claims have been added.

Conclusion

In summary, claims 16-20 and 3-7 (which depend from allowed independent claim 16) meet the substantive requirements for patentability. This case is in appropriate condition for allowance. Accordingly, such action is respectfully requested. If a telephone or video conference would expedite allowance or resolve any further questions, such a question is invited at the convenience of the Examiner.

Please charge any fees or credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 02-3978.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 30, 2006

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